



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Washington, DC 20240

Memorandum

To: Regional Directors
Attention: Fire and Fuels Management

Through: Deputy Bureau Director, Field Operations

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: Revision of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Standards for Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation (PMS-484), Prescribed Fire Plan Template (PMS-484-1), and the Prescribed Fire Summary and Final Complexity Worksheet (PMS-424-1)

On June 27, 2022, the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) announced the release of the revised Standards for Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation, PMS 484, dated May 2022 which replaces the July 2017 version. Changes from the previous version include:

- Changed the title from '*NWCG Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Guide*' to '*NWCG Standards for Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation*' to comply with NWCG nomenclature.
- Updated to recognize the position change that combined Prescribed Fire Manager Type 1 and Type 2 positions (RXM1, RXM2) into one position, Prescribed Fire Manager (RXMG).
- Reformatted to provide better clarity and provide links to external information sources where appropriate, as well as related NWCG publications for smoke management, aerial ignitions, and other related topic areas where other documents are referenced.
- Removed position duties in deference to Incident Position Descriptions (IPDs) for RXB1, RXB2, RXB3, RXMG, FIRB, FEMO positions.
- Minor edits prompted by the revision of the NWCG Prescribed Fire Plan Template, PMS 484-1, to provide better instructions for completion.

The Prescribed Fire Plan Template, PMS 484-1 was revised in December 2021, replacing the March 2018 version. Template revisions included formatting and functionality updates. The Prescribed Fire Summary and Final Complexity Worksheet, PMS-424-1 was revised in March 2022, replacing the October 2020 version. Worksheet revisions included functionality updates to allow for printing of the document.

To ensure all future prescribed fire planning documents follow current NWCG standards, the revised NWCG Standards for Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation (PMS-484), Prescribed Fire Plan Template (PMS-484-1) and Prescribed Fire Summary and Final Complexity Worksheet (PMS-424-1) will be used as Bureau standards for all future prescribed fire planning and implementation beginning January 1, 2023.

By January 1, 2024, all Bureau of Indian Affairs' prescribed fire plans must follow the most current NWCG publications listed above. Prescribed fire plans, currently in development or approved prior to January 1, 2023, may proceed with implementation, but must be updated using the new guidance by January 1, 2024.

All three NWCG documents are available at NWCG.gov - Publications, Fuels Management Committee: <https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/fuels-management-committee/publications>.

If you have any questions or need assistance with this matter, please contact, James "Mark" Jackson, Director, Fuels Management by phone at (208) 387-5041 or email at james.jackson@bia.gov.